...IT IS TIME TO KICK SOME SPANDEX TUSHY! WHADDA WE GOT HERE...

...CAPTAIN AMERICA, OKAY, I SALUTE YOU, SUPER-SOLDIER. WILL PUMMEL YOU WITH GREAT REGRET.

FALCON TALKS TO A BIRD AND GLIDES AROUND LIKE A BALLERINA. NO QUALMS ABOUT BATTERING HIM.

GOLIATH. HE'S A SCIENTIST GUY. USED TO ACTUALLY CALL HIMSELF BLACK GOLIATH, THANK YOU FOR THAT TIP. DESERVES DEATH AND WORSE.

DAREDEVIL. PAJAMA-BOY ANNOYANCE. CAN'T HURT ME, CAN AVOID PAIN. A NUISANCE.

HERCULES. FREAKIN' OLYMPIAN DEMIGOD. FOR REAL. DADDY ZEUS HAD A THING FOR HUMAN CHICKS BACK IN THE DAY. HE MIGHT BE A CHALLENGE.

OKAY. YEAH.

I CAN DO THIS!

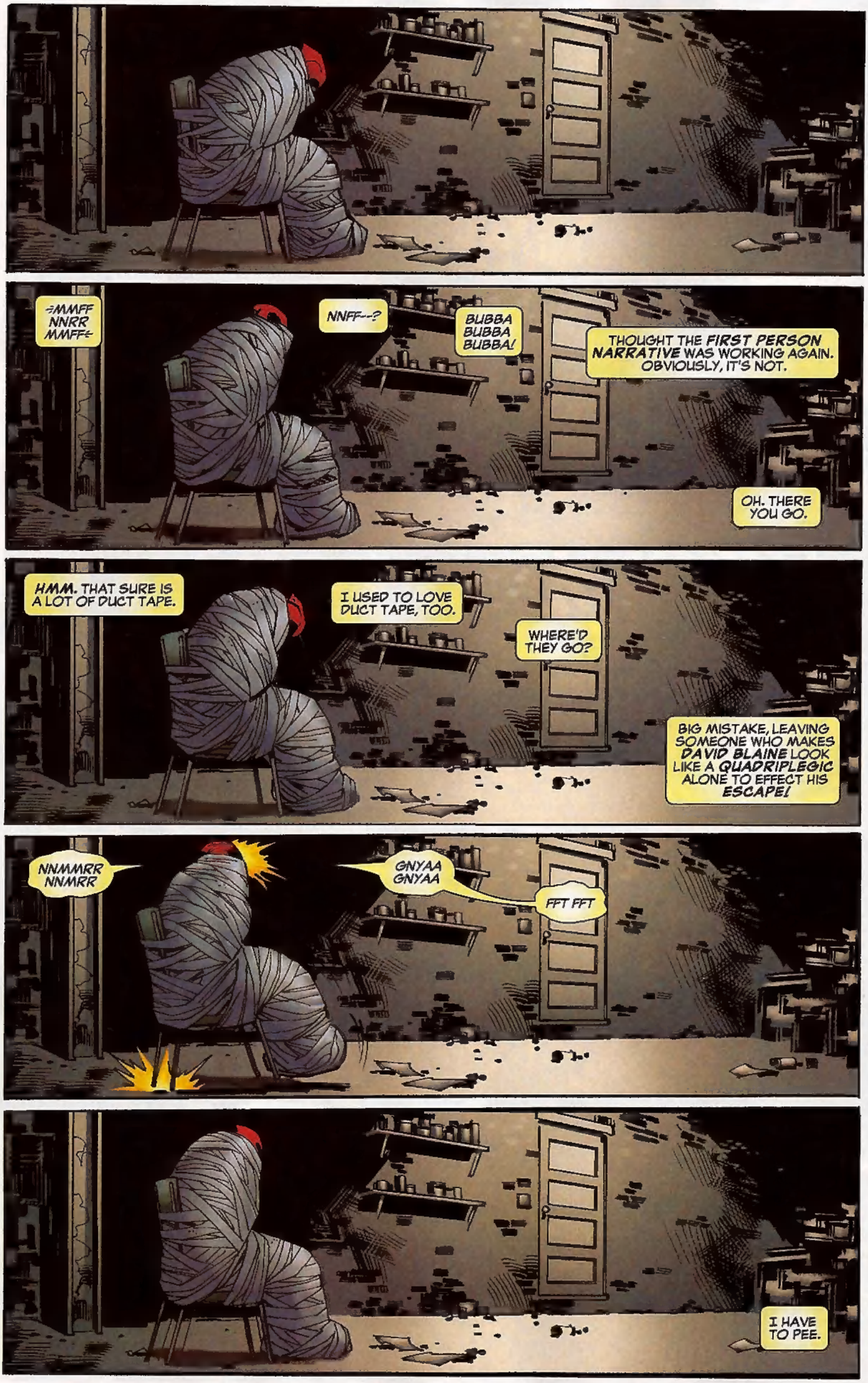
HEY, LOOKIN' A LITTLE WOBBLY THERE, BIRDIE. MUST BE OUT OF PRACTICE.
TITMOUSE. THAT CRACKS ME UP.
A FALCON'S A TOUGH BIRD? YOU'RE NOT LIKE A FINCH OR A TITMOUSE, RIGHT?
BETTER SLEEP IT OFF.
PFFT
PFFT
PFFT
YOU SHOT HIM?
OW.
JUST A TRANQ DART. NO ONE WANTS YOU GUYS DEAD.
WELL, PERSONALLY I DON'T GIVE A FIG, BUT I MEAN NO ONE THAT MATTERS.
OW AGAIN.
CLANG

NOW, STAY OUT OF THIS SO I CAN SQUARE OFF FOR THE MATCH-UP THAT MIGHT ACTUALLY INCREASE MY SALES!
TWO SUPER-SOLDIERS, POISED FOR BATTLE!
A WARY, CONTROLLED TENSION CRACKLES BETWEEN THEM LIKE AN ELECTRIC PULSE.
EACH LOOKING FOR A FEINT, A SUBTLE TELL THAT WILL GIVE THEM THEIR FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO STRIKE.
TWO WARRIORS, RESPECTFUL, YET--
SILENCE, YOU PRATTLING MORTAL SACK OF INANITY!
PREPARE THYSELF FOR... THE GIFT!
EEP!
PLEASE LET IT BE A GIFT CERTIFICATE TO VICTORIA'S SECRET...

CAPTAIN, ALLOW ME TO GRIND THIS MISCREANT INTO PASTE!
HERCULES, PLEASE...CALM YOURSELF. DEADPOOL IS ONLY DOING WHAT'S EXPECTED OF HIM.
WE KNEW THIS WAS COMING.
YEAH! I'M AN INNOCENT PAWN IN A GREATER GAME! I KNOW WHICH SIDE I'M ON!
WHATEVER SIDE ISN'T GOING TO KICK MY BUTT IN!
PFFT PFFT PFFT PFFT
HAH! LULLED YA!
BY THE CURLY HAIRS OF ZEUS I SHALL SMITE THEE!
DEADPOOL... PLEASE...YOU'RE ONLY GOING TO ANNOY HIM.
MORE.
ALL KING'S COURTS SUFFER THE BANTER OF THE JESTER, BUT I ADMIT, MY PATIENCE FOR SUCH ANTICS WAS ALWAYS VERY THIN.
WOW, THAT'S A NEWSFLASH.
PFFT PFFT
CHYEENG
DRAT.

PEFT PEFT PEFT
WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH HIM?
CHYEENG
HERCULES CAN HIT HIM A FEW TIMES. DEADPOOL HAS A HEALING FACTOR.
HE'LL RECOVER.
EVENTUALLY.
NATHAN DAYSPRING ASKANI'SON GESHUNDHEIT. CABLE. SOLDIER FROM THE FUTURE HERE TO SAVE THE WORLD FROM ITS OWN--AND HIS OWN--INSANITY.
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE ON DIFFERENT SIDES OF THE FENCE HERE.
I'LL DOUBLE WHATEVER THE COMMISSION ON SUPERHUMAN ACTIVITIES IS PAYING YOU.
AND I'LL GIVE YOU A BIGGER BADGE.
MY PRINCIPLES CANNOT BE BOUGHT!
OOOOOH--CAN'T/MUST CONFLICT...!
PEFT PEFT PEFT PEFT PEFT PEFT PEFT
NO! NO! NOT EVEN FOR A BIGGER BADGE COULD I BETRAY MY UNCLE SAM!

WOW.
I'M FEELIN' REEEEEALLY GOOD RIGHT NOW...
FWUMPH
HE HAS AN ENHANCED HEALING FACTOR, RIGHT? HOW LONG WILL THAT KEEP HIM OUT?
NOT NEARLY LONG ENOUGH.
WHAT DO YOU RECOMMEND WE DO WITH HIM?
DUCT TAPE. LOTS AND LOTS OF DUCT TAPE.
AT LEAST ONE ROLL FOR HIS MOUTH ALONE.
LATER...
WHAT'S THE MISSION?
WE'LL BRIEF ON THE WAY...
CAN I STILL STEP ON DEADPOOL WHEN WE GET BACK?


=MMFF NNRR MMFF=
NNFF--?
BUBBA BUBBA BUBBA!
THOUGHT THE FIRST PERSON NARRATIVE WAS WORKING AGAIN. OBVIOUSLY, IT'S NOT.
OH. THERE YOU GO.
HMM. THAT SURE IS A LOT OF DUCT TAPE.
I USED TO LOVE DUCT TAPE, TOO.
WHERE'D THEY GO?
BIG MISTAKE, LEAVING SOMEONE WHO MAKES DAVID BLAINE LOOK LIKE A QUADRIPLEGIC ALONE TO EFFECT HIS ESCAPE!
NNMMRR NNMRR
GNYAA GNYAA
FPT FPT
I HAVE TO PEE.

=NG
RRFFA
HRRFFA
PYUH!=
I REALLY HAVE TO PEE!

HOURS LATER...
FINALLY!
I REALLY HAVE TO PEE.
THIS ISN'T A GAME ANY-MORE, WADE.
I WENT TO HELP THEM ON A MISSION. ONE OF OUR MEMBERS WAS KILLED.
WAIT A MINUTE--SERIOUS--NOT BY ONE OF US GOOD GUYS--
--I GOT LIKE A SIX-HOUR LECTURE ON NOT CAPPING ANYONE!
SOMEONE FORGOT TO TELL THAT TO THOR.
THOR IS DEAD.
SOMEONE FORGOT TO TELL HIM THAT, TOO.

OH, THERE HAS GOT TO BE A BATHROOM IN THIS PLACE!
MR. PRESIDENT, PLEASE TELL YOUR MEN NOT TO SHOOT.
MY BODY IS PROTECTED BY A GRAVIMETRIC SHEATH THAT WILL REPEL THE BULLETS.
BUT I THOUGHT IT TAKES A MINUTE TO KICK BACK IN AFTER WE--
I WOULDN'T WANT YOU OR YOUR SECRET SERVICE AGENTS TO BE HIT BY A RICOCHET.
I AM NOT HERE TO HURT YOU OR ANYONE ELSE. I JUST NEED TO TALK.

SAY WHAT YOU CAME TO SAY.
MR. PRESIDENT... I HAVE TO PEE.
THIRD DOWN ON THE RIGHT. ONE OF YOU BOYS HELP HIM OUT.
THANKS. YER THE BEST.
OH, HEY, HI. YOU DON'T HAVE TO HELP, I'VE BEEN GOOD TO GO SOLO SINCE I WAS FOURTEEN...
YOU KNOW I'M ON YOUR SIDE, RIGHT? I EVEN GOT A BADGE.
SO... WHAT DO I CALL YOU, PRESIDENT CABLE?
WITH YOUR PENCHANT FOR NICKNAMES, I WAS HOPING FOR SOMETHING MORE CLEVER.

INITIATING THE SUPERHUMAN REGISTRATION ACT IS UNDERSTANDABLE.
I HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH THE GOVERNMENT ASKING TO KNOW THE IDENTITIES OF PEOPLE WHO ARE CAPABLE OF BLOWING UP SCHOOLYARDS.
I DIDN'T KNOW I NEEDED YOUR APPROVAL, BUT I'LL TAKE IT. CARE TO MAKE YOUR POSITION PUBLIC?
I WATCHED A GOOD MAN DIE.
THAT WAS REGRETTABLE.
THE FIRST OF MANY MORE TO COME.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
IT'S THE OLD JOKE, MR. PRESIDENT. "WHAT DO YOU CALL A HUNDRED LAWYERS ON THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN?"
A GOOD START.
I DON'T HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THE REGISTRATION ACT...
...BUT THE FIFTY STATES INITIATIVE WILL PAVE THE ROAD TOWARDS A TOTALITARIAN STATE...
...AND A REAL CIVIL WAR--ONE WHOSE EFFECT ON SUPERHUMANS WILL ENGULF ALL AMERICAN CIVILIANS--AND ULTIMATELY THE WORLD.
HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE F.S.I.--OH, BECAUSE YOU'RE FROM THE FUTURE, RIGHT?

I WOULD HOPE... EVENTUALLY... SOME OF YOU WOULD LEARN FROM YOUR PAST AS WELL AS I HAVE FROM MINE.
THE FACT THAT MY PAST IS YOUR FUTURE IS ALL THE MORE REASON WHY YOU SHOULDN'T MAKE LIGHT OF WHAT I HAVE TO SAY, SIR.
IF YOU PUT SUPERHUMAN POLICE IN EVERY STATE, IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE YOU HAVE A POLICE STATE.
THROUGH-OUT HUMAN HISTORY, EVERY TIME HUMAN, SOCIAL AND CIVIL RIGHTS HAVE BEEN ABROGATED IN THE NAME OF PROTECTING THOSE VERY RIGHTS...
...INEVITABLY-- IT HAS LED TO A CRUSHING OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT--AND AN UPRISING AGAINST THE RULING PARTY.
IS THAT A THREAT, MISTER CABLE?
IT'S A STATEMENT OF FACT.
WELL, YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT SOMETHING THAT IS FIFTY YEARS AWAY.
THOSE AREN'T VOTES WE HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THIS NOVEMBER.

FWASSSH!
BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!
FSSSH
UHN!

MOVE!
MOVE!
MOVE!
GET BACK, MR. PRESIDENT!
BLAM! BLAM! BLAM! BLAM! BLAM! BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM! BLAM!
BLAM!

AAAH
NNFF
GAAAHH
YOU--WHAT--ARE THEY--?
I CAN ACCESS AND MANIPULATE SOMETHING CALLED THE INFONET.
IT'S THE COMBINED TOTALITY OF THE PLANET'S ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSIONS.
THESE BOYS ARE HAVING THE CONTENTS OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS DOWNLOADED INTO THEIR BRAINS.
IT'S NOT HURTING THEM. IT'LL OVERWHELM THEM FOR AN HOUR OR SO.
SO YOU CAN DO WHAT, ASSASSINATE ME?
I THOUGHT YOUR POLL NUMBERS HAD ACCOMPLISHED THAT TASK.
I ONLY CAME TO TALK--CONVINCE YOU TO STOP THIS MADNESS...BUT I SEE NOW...

...THAT ONE MAN'S MADNESS IS ANOTHER MAN'S RATIONAL COURSE OF ACTION.
GUESS ONLY TIME WILL TELL, HUH?
HISTORY WILL NOT BE KIND TO YOU.
CASE YOU HADN'T NOTICED, THE PRESENT HASN'T BEEN ALL PRETZELS AND BEEF JERKY, EITHER.
THE NEXT TIME WE MEET, YOU'LL BE AN OLD, ENFEEBLED MAN...AND YOU'LL BE WATCHING YOUR SUCCESSOR SIX TIMES REMOVED...
...AS HE SIGNS A TREATY OF SURRENDER.
MAN, THOSE BATHROOMS MUST HAVE REALLY GOOD INSULATION!
YOU'RE A LEGALLY DEPUTIZED AGENT OF THE COMMISSION ON SUPER-HUMAN ACTIVITIES, RIGHT?
YES, SIR, MR. PRESIDENT! I GOT A BADGE. YOU WANT TO SEE IT?
NO, THAT'S OKAY, SON. WHAT I REALLY WANT YOU TO DO...

...IS APPREHEND THIS SUPER-HUMAN FUGITIVE--
--DEAD OR ALIVE!
OKAY. YEAH.
I CAN DO THIS!
NEXT:
A HOUSE DIVIDED!

DEAR DEADPOOL

Nicole says, "This is a fine time to welcome new readers who jumped on for Civil War and decided to stay. And to thank the ongoing readers who had the good sense to start at the beginning." Just sounds like a namby-pamby editorial way of sucking up to all of you! To those of you who've been reading us from the beginning – GOOD – shows you got some sense and smarts. You shouldn't need an extra back-pat for that, just be cool and keep that frosty, arrogant air of superiority about you every time you walk into the comic shop.

For those of you who have jumped on board during our indescribably entertaining Civil War issues, we'll take your money, but what took you mooks so long to get a clue? Show some smarts and stick around permanent-like.

Now on to your letters...

Dear Deadpool,

I just want to say you and Nate rock! I have every single issue so far (yes I'm the one), and have enjoyed it from the start. I have to admit I didn't think you guys would last this long but I am glad you proved me wrong. Before I get to some numbered questions, I just have one quick comment. In issue number 30 you mentioned Stacie Keibler, and I just wanted to let you guys know you spelled her name wrong; it's Stacy, not Stacie. Now on to the numbered questions:

1) So I see you like Rachel McAdams now, does Bea know about this?

2) If you ever have Rachel and Bea wrestle in pudding can you invite me over?

A) Who do you think will win?

3) Have you ever thought of writing an autobiography?

4) Will you ever have your own E! True Hollywood Story? (I mean, Tara Reid even has one!)

5) Besides being the "Merc with the Mouth," do you have any other hobbies or favorite pastimes?

6) I recently just graduated college with a B.A. in Dramatic Arts, any advice?

A) Do you accept internships?

B) Need a sidekick?

Possibly your future sidekick/intern,
Joey Harrison

P.S. I am glad to see I am not the only person losing my first-person narrative powers. Mine went on the fritz on a date; boy, was my face red.

Okay, I spelled Stacie's name wrong. Sorry, unlike you, Joey, I wasn't looking at her NAME on the cover of Maxim magazine.

Ooh, numbered questions.

1) I am man enough to spread my love around.

2) You're a sick, twisted, oddly compelling young man.

A) Bea's a handful.

3) I've thought of writing it. Apparently, no one has thought of publishing it.

4) Tara Reid cracks me up.

5) I like to make origami decorations for lace table settings. What do you think, mook? I like to stab, bludgeon, maim and annihilate, that's what I like to do!

6) I hear Wal-Mart is hiring.

A) Send your resume to Marvel's human resources department. They haven't had a good laugh lately.

B) I need someone who I can stab, bludgeon, maim or annihilate as the mood suits me in order to vent my pent-up aggression. Yeah, I guess I do need an intern...

Hey 'Pool,

I picked up the latest issue (#30) just because it was a Civil War crossover and I got the surprise of my life!

Understand, I was a huge comics fan in the nineties and had pretty much given them up--being grown and all--but I got back into Marvel Comics when I heard about the New Avengers. And then with Civil War, I mean, who hasn't imagined what would happen if various heroes got into it with each other? Needless to say, I'm back...

...but *Cable & Deadpool*? Issue 30 was the first time I've read the book, and I have to admit it was my favorite of all the Civil War crossovers so far!

First of all, the humor...This mag is straight-up funny! I mean from the way 'Pool escaped from Big Bertha's clutches, to getting his &*% handed to him by Squirrel Girl(!), and then not wanting to go after Cap because he thought he would get the crap kicked out of him...I don't remember ever laughing out loud while reading a comic! And then top it all off with his first-person narrative getting all screwed up and the whole defying-the-4th-dimension thing...Classic! I know She-Hulk did the whole talking-to-the-reader thing years ago, but was it ever this amusing? I think not!

Then there's the characters...I have loved both Cable and Deadpool since back in the New Mutant days (I pride myself on having both of their first appearances, by the way), and they have developed so much over the years!

However, in the midst of all this goodness, I have one request: Please reprint volume one of the *Cable & Deadpool* trade paperback! I have searched all my local comic shops and no one has a copy! I've even tried looking online, but that, too, was of no avail! Come on, people! You know doing a Civil War crossover is going to promote new interest! Would you mind helping me out on this?

Okay, I'm out. If the next issue is as good as this one I'll write again.

Later,
Dion Bickham

Nicole says, "Note! If you insult Bendis or the New Avengers, I will delete it!" What does that mean? I could only DREAM of being asked to be in the NEW AVENGERS. I mean, such an exclusive club and all... [This portion deleted due to rampant sarcasm.] Uhm... I better shut up now or else they'll delete this answer...

Oh, and about that trade paperback request, is it too much to ask that Marvel keeps my glorious adventures in print? Someone give me some help here, okay? Dion is looking to check out all our great issues and we're trying to make a buck here, aren't we?

Dion – check next issue's "Dear Deadpool" for an update on the availability of Cable & Deadpool Volume 1! -Nicole

Dear Deadpool,

The X-Men used to be my favorite comic until I just so happened to pick up an issue of *Cable/Deadpool*. You guys jumped to the head of my fav list, so much so that I'm bleeding my savings dry trying to buy up anything you've ever been in...I hope you appreciate all the trouble I'm going through! On the plus side, I'm trying to convince everyone I know to buy your issues, so if you see a sudden spike in sales you'll know who to thank.

Being a new fan, I've researched the Web for more information on you but it seems you're more of a mystery than Wolverine's past (well, at least up until the James Howlett thing showed up). So I have some questions:

1) Why the obsession with Bea Arthur? I agree she's a great actress, but dude - she's old enough to be your mother. Come to think of it, seems like you have a thing for older women...

2) Why are you so hard on Nate in your letters? He's your new best bud, give him a break!

3) Why didn't you show up at the Comic Con this year? There were tons of Jedis, Stormtroopers and mostly-naked anime girls, but not a single Deadpool. Next year I think you should do the Slim Shady thing and march in there with an army of 'Pools. And you should kidnap Bowen and make him do a full-sized figurine of you. Yeah...that would make me happy.

Your loyal and entertained new fan,
Daisy

Now, Daisy, no reason to bleed dry your savings account. Just tell me where you live and I'd be happy to re-enact all my issues for you live and in person. Now, you'll need about sixty-three gallons of chocolate pudding to re-enact issue #13 where me an' this girl, Daisy, hey, what a coincidence, she's got the same name as you--

Oooh, numbered questions!

1) I don't have a thing for older women, just B. By any chance, are you an older woman?

2) If you read next issue, you'll know why I'm mad at Nate...

3) Yeah, as if I'd be caught dead at a comic con.

That's funny. Then again, lots of tasty targets to choose from... anyone dressed like the NEW AVENGERS...?

Does it take a meta-carpenter to fix a broken fourth wall?

Paul Di Filippo

Yeah, you're a regular Edward Nigma there, Paul. Thank goodness for e-mail, `cause in the old days, if you'd wasted the cost of a stamp for that lame line, I really would have come down on you hard. Uhm... I abuse you mostly `cause I actually can't answer your question.

That's it for this month. Sorry I was in a cranky mood, but I had to pee all issue long and Nicole asked to answer these right after page 22 when I was on my way to the bathroom in the White House. Which, by the way, are very lovely bathrooms.

And what the heck is Nicole doing in the White House at night hunting me down to answer letters? I wonder if she's registered her Superhuman Power to Annoy Me or not...

NEXT ISSUE:

Me an' Nate have a lovers' quarrel. Not that there's anything wrong with that. And all kidding aside, the Civil War totally changes everything for this book! At least until the next event.

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